



THE  
AMERICAN  
CONSERVATIVE  
UNION



COMPETITIVE  
ENTERPRISE  
INSTITUTE



FreedomWorks

TECH  
FREEDOM

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th St SW  
Washington, DC 20554

December 8th, 2017

**Notice of Ex Parte**

*In re Restoring Internet Freedom, WC Docket No. 17-108*

Dear Ms. Dortch,

On Thursday, December 7th, 2017, Tom Struble and Mike Godwin of R Street Institute, Patrick Hedger of FreedomWorks, Michi Iljazi of American Conservative Union, Taylor Barkley of Competitive Enterprise Institute, and Robert Winterton of TechFreedom (collectively, “the Internet Freedom Supporters”) met with Jay Schwarz, Wireline Advisor for Chairman Pai, and Nathan Leamer, Policy Advisor for Chairman Pai. During this meeting, the Internet Freedom Supporters discussed the above-captioned proceeding, regarding the Commission’s proposal to restore Internet freedom by returning to the light-touch regulatory approach under which the Internet flourished prior to 2015.<sup>1</sup>

The Internet Freedom Supporters commended the Commission for developing a thorough and robust evidentiary record in this proceeding, despite some concerted efforts to manipulate and disrupt the Commission’s public comment process.<sup>2</sup> Additionally, the Internet Freedom Supporters applauded the Commission’s determination and fortitude in

---

<sup>1</sup> *Restoring Internet Freedom*, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, WC Docket No. 17-108 (May 23, 2017), <https://goo.gl/ecJJPM>; see also *Restoring Internet Freedom*, Declaratory Ruling, Report and Order, and Order, WC Docket No. 17-108 (draft released Nov. 22, 2017), <https://goo.gl/FgXWqF>.

<sup>2</sup> See, e.g., Paul Hitlin et al., *Public Comments to the Federal Communications Commission About Net Neutrality Contain Many Inaccuracies and Duplicates*, PEW RES. CTR. (Nov. 29, 2017), <https://goo.gl/bg2uxe>.

pressing forward with its proposal and rejecting calls to delay for one reason or another.<sup>3</sup> Neither mischief during the comment period nor the *FTC v. AT&T Mobility* case currently before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit, sitting *en banc*, justifies a delay on the part of the FCC.

Finally, on the merits of the FCC's Restoring Internet Freedom proposal, the Internet Freedom Supporters voiced their strong support for the Commission's plan to undo the 2015 Title II reclassification of broadband Internet access service, eliminate the FCC's nebulous general conduct standard, and rescind the rules prohibiting blocking, throttling and paid prioritization. With the Federal Trade Commission's authority over broadband restored and the two agencies working together, both consumers and entrepreneurs will be able to enjoy the tremendous benefits of a free and open Internet for years to come.

\* \* \* \* \*

In accordance with Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules,<sup>4</sup> this letter is being filed with your office. If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Struble  
Technology Policy Manager  
R Street Institute  
[tstruble@rstreet.org](mailto:tstruble@rstreet.org)

Mike Godwin  
Distinguished Senior Fellow  
R Street Institute  
[mgodwin@rstreet.org](mailto:mgodwin@rstreet.org)

Patrick Hedger  
Director of Policy  
FreedomWorks  
[phedger@freedomworks.org](mailto:phedger@freedomworks.org)

---

<sup>3</sup> See, e.g., Ali Breland, *FCC Rejects Calls to Delay Net Neutrality Vote*, THE HILL (Dec. 5, 2017), <https://goo.gl/XBwa5E>.

<sup>4</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b).

Michi Iljazi  
Director of Government Affairs  
American Conservative Union  
[michi@conservative.org](mailto:michi@conservative.org)

Taylor Barkley  
Government Affairs Manager  
Competitive Enterprise Institute  
[taylor.barkley@cei.org](mailto:taylor.barkley@cei.org)

Robert Winterton  
Digital Marketing & Outreach Manager  
TechFreedom  
[rwinterton@techfreedom.org](mailto:rwinterton@techfreedom.org)

cc: Jay Schwarz  
[jay.schwarz@fcc.gov](mailto:jay.schwarz@fcc.gov)

Nathan Leamer  
[nathan.leamer@fcc.gov](mailto:nathan.leamer@fcc.gov)